



Atty. Dkt. No. 076326-0273

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Thomas HERRMANN  
Title: BELT HEIGHT ADJUSTMENT  
DEVICE  
Appl. No.: 10/786,167  
Filing Date: 02/26/2004  
Examiner: Timothy Wilhelm  
Art Unit: 3616  
Confirmation Number: 9137

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of a document known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

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**TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The listed document is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(c), before the mailing date of either a final action under 37 CFR §1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

**RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

The document is in English and was cited as being relevant during the prosecution of the corresponding Chinese application. A copy of the Chinese Examination Report is attached setting forth the portion of each document considered relevant by the Examiner.

Applicant respectfully requests that each listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

**FEE**

A credit card payment form in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed in accordance with 37 CFR §1.17(p) to cover the fee associated with an information disclosure statement under 37 CFR §1.97(c) in the amount of \$180.00.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by the credit card payment form being unsigned, providing incorrect information resulting in a rejected credit card transaction, or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date December 4, 2006

By Michael D. Kaminski

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| Substitute for form 1449/PTO<br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br>Date Submitted: December 4, 2006<br><br><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> |  |  |  | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                 |
|  |  |  |  | Application Number       | 10/786,167      |
|  |  |  |  | Filing Date              | 2/26/2004       |
|  |  |  |  | First Named Inventor     | Thomas HERRMANN |
|  |  |  |  | Art Unit                 | 3616            |
|  |  |  |  | Examiner Name            | Timothy Wilhelm |
|  |  |  |  | Attorney Docket Number   | 076326-0273     |

O T P E  
 DEC 04 2006  
 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                          | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of<br>Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|--|
|                    |                       | Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |  |  |
|                    | B1                    | 2002/0159916 A1                          | 10/31/2002                     | Whitby et al.                                      |  |
|                    |                       |  |                                |  |  |
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**UNPUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATION DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | U.S. Patent Application Document                | Filing Date of<br>Cited Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of<br>Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|--|--|--|
|                    |                       | Serial Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |  |  |  |
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document  | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Documents | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|----------------|
|                    |                       | Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind<br>Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                |   |  |                |
|                    |                       |  |                                |   |  |                |
|                    |                       |  |                                |   |  |                |

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>6</sup> |
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|--------------------|-----------------|--|
| Examiner Signature | Date Considered |  |
|--------------------|-----------------|--|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.